



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
LANSING

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

KIRK T. STEUDLE  
DIRECTOR

JUL 07 2006

June 15, 2006

The Honorable John D. Dingell  
United States House of Representatives  
2328 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senate  
133 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Carl Levin  
United States Senate  
269 Russell State Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kathy Angerer  
Michigan House of Representatives  
P.O. Box 30014  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Congressman Dingell, Senator Levin, Senator Stabenow, and Representative Angerer:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding a proposed development in Erie Township. A private developer has proposed construction of an intermodal railroad yard and distribution center along I-75 with both highway and railroad access. The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) did not propose this project and has made no commitments to participate in it. MDOT has no regulatory authorities that would require its approval to develop an intermodal facility. We would, however, be involved in authorizing any highway-railroad grade crossings which need to be constructed. The developers appear to be working with Monroe County officials. We are aware of the significant local opposition to this proposed development.

Intermodal facilities are an important component of Michigan's transportation system. While MDOT has not identified a need for additional facilities in Monroe County, we are working cooperatively with all the major railroads, automotive industry, and community interests regarding the proposed Detroit Intermodal Freight Terminal. This project is located in Detroit and Dearborn in Wayne County and is the result of extensive studies over several years. It is unrelated to the Erie Township proposal.

If you have any additional questions, please contact either me or Jackie Shinn, Chief Deputy Director, at 517-373-2114.

Sincerely,

Kirk T. Steudle  
Director